AMENDING THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930 SO AS TO ALLOW CONTAINERS FOR CERTAIN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND DERIVATIVES TO BE TEMPORARILY IMPORTED WITHOUT PAYMENT OF DUTY

 J_{ULY} 3, 1952.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Keogh, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5283]

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5283) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 so as to allow containers for petroleum products to be temporarily imported, under certain circumstances, without payment of duty, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 1, strike out lines 5 through 8 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(7) Containers for compressed gases; containers of substantial character, suitable for reuse, containing merchandise, which containers shall be exported empty or filled, but shall not be used in the transportation of merchandise between points in the United States otherwise than as the original containers of imported merchandise or as the export containers of merchandise; and metal containers described in paragraph 328 when imported empty to be filled solely for export with any of the following products or derivatives obtained wholly or in part from petroleum: gasoline, solvents, kerosene, fuel oil, lubricating oils and greases, hydraulic oil, insulating oil, transformer oil, cutting oil, petrolatum and petroleum jelly, paraffin wax, micro-crystalline wax, and asphalt. Notwithstanding any provision of section 402 of this Act, the cost of filled containers properly entered under this subdivision shall not be included in the appraised value of their contents;

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 so as to allow containers for certain petroleum products and derivatives to be temporarily imported without payment of duty, and for other purposes.

GENERAL STATEMENT

This bill would extend the temporary free entry privilege under bond to insure reexportation to substantial containers which are suitable for reuse when they are imported filled with merchandise, but would limit the reuse of such containers in the United States to the transportion of merchandise being exported.

Subdivision 7 of section 308 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, now provides for the temporary free entry of containers for compressed gas under a bond to secure exportation within a period of not more than 1 year

This bill would also extend the temporary free entry privilege under bond to metal containers described in paragraph 328 of the Tariff Act, for example, steel drums which are imported empty for use solely as exporting containers for a variety of petroleum products and derivatives which are specifically enumerated in the bill.

Your committee has been informed that the bill will authorize the continuous handling of reusable containers on a basis which will meet current conditions in foreign commerce and that it will give needed relief to the petroleum industry by enabling that industry to use foreign-made containers of kinds in short supply in this country for numerous products which are exported.

The bill was reported unanimously by your committee.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as introduced, are shown as follows (new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 308 OF THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930, AS AMENDED

SEC. 308. TEMPORARY FREE IMPORTATION UNDER BOND FOR EXPORTATION.

The following articles, when not imported for sale or for sale on approval, may be admitted into the United States under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe without the payment of duty, under bond for their exportation within six months from the date of importation, which period may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury (whether such articles are imported before or after this section becomes effective), be extended, upon application, for a further period not to exceed six months:

(7) Containers for compressed gases and petroleum products which comply with the laws and regulations for the transportation of such containers in the United States;